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## Exempt Action Final Regulation Agency Background Document

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| <b>Approving authority name</b>  | State Air Pollution Control Board                          |
| <b>Primary action</b>            | 9 VAC 5 Chapter 30   |
| <b>Secondary action(s)</b>       | None   |
| <b>Regulation title</b>          | Regulations for the Control and Abatement of Air Pollution |
| <b>Action title</b>              | Ambient Air Quality Standards (Revision A04)               |
| <b>Document preparation date</b> | June 30, 2004  |

When a regulatory action is exempt from executive branch review pursuant to § 2.2-4002 or § 2.2-4006(A) of the of the Administrative Process Act (APA) ([townhall.state.va.us/dpbpages/dpb\\_apa.htm](http://townhall.state.va.us/dpbpages/dpb_apa.htm)), the agency is encouraged to provide information to the public on the Regulatory Town Hall using this form.

Note: While posting this form on the Town Hall is optional, the agency must comply with requirements of the Virginia Register Act ([leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+2.2-4100](http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+2.2-4100)), the *Virginia Register Form, Style, and Procedure Manual* ([legis.state.va.us/codecomm/register/download/styl8\\_95.rtf](http://legis.state.va.us/codecomm/register/download/styl8_95.rtf)), and Executive Orders 21 (02) and 58 (99) ([governor.state.va.us/Press\\_Policy/Executive\\_Orders/EOHome.html](http://governor.state.va.us/Press_Policy/Executive_Orders/EOHome.html))

### Summary

*Please provide a brief summary of the regulation, amendments to an existing regulation, or the regulation being repealed. There is no need to state each provision or amendment..*

On July 18, 1997, EPA issued a regulation replacing the 1-hour 0.12 parts per million (ppm) ozone national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) with an 8-hour standard at a level of 0.08 ppm. At the same time, EPA issued a regulation revising the particulate matter standard by adding a new standard for fine particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to 2.5 micrometers (PM<sub>2.5</sub>), set at 15 micrograms per cubic meter (:g/m<sup>3</sup>). These primary standards became effective on September 16, 1997, and are located in 40 CFR Part 50. On April 30, 2004, EPA promulgated a final rule to implement Phase I of the 8-hour ozone standard, including the transition from the 1-hour to the 8-hour standard. 40 CFR 50.9 has been revised to indicate that the 1-hour standard is no longer effective one year after the effective date of the rule, which means that the 8-hour standard replaces the 1-hour standard on June 15, 2005.

Chapter 30 of the Regulations for the Control and Abatement of Air Pollution contains the specific criteria pollutant standards set out in 40 CFR Part 50. Incorporation of the NAAQS into the state regulations is necessary to provide a legally enforceable means by which the state prepares attainment and maintenance plans, and determines whether a new source will affect the NAAQS.

## Statement of Final Agency Action

*Please provide a statement of the final action taken by the agency: including the date the action was taken, the name of the agency taking the action, and the title of the regulation.*

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On June 29, 2004, the State Air Pollution Control Board adopted final amendments to regulations entitled "Regulations for the Control and Abatement of Air Pollution," specifically, ambient air quality standards (9 VAC 5 Chapter 30). The regulation amendments are to be effective on a date consistent with the requirements of the Administrative Process Act.

The regulation amendments are exempt from the state administrative procedures for adoption of regulations contained in Article 2 of the Administrative Process Act by the provisions of § 2.2-4006 A 4 c of the Administrative Process Act because they are necessary to meet the requirements of the federal Clean Air Act and do not differ materially from the pertinent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations.

In adopting these amendments, the board affirmed that it will receive, consider and respond to petitions by any person at any time with respect to reconsideration or revision, as provided in § 2.2-4006 B of the Administrative Process Act.

## Additional Information

*Please indicate that the text of the regulation, the reporting forms the agency intends to incorporate or use in administering the proposed regulation, a copy of any documents to be incorporated by reference are attached.*

*Please state that the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) has certified that the agency has the statutory authority to promulgate the regulation and that it comports with applicable state and/or federal law.*

*If the exemption claimed falls under § 2.2-4006 A 4 c of the APA please identify the federal law or regulations being relied upon for the final agency action.*

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The text of the regulation is attached.

Section 10.1-1308 of the Virginia Air Pollution Control Law (Title 10.1, Chapter 13 of the Code of Virginia) authorizes the State Air Pollution Control Board to promulgate regulations abating, controlling and prohibiting air pollution in order to protect public health and welfare. Letters providing written assurance from the Office of the Attorney General that (i) the board has statutory authority to promulgate the final regulation amendments and (ii) the amendments qualify as an exemption under § 2.2-4006 A 4 c of the Administrative Process Act are available upon request.

The regulation is based on 40 CFR Part 50, which lists the national ambient air quality standards.

## Family impact

*Assess the impact of this regulatory action on the institution of the family and family stability including to what extent the regulatory action will: 1) strengthen or erode the authority and rights of parents in the education, nurturing, and supervision of their children; 2) encourage or discourage economic self-sufficiency, self-pride, and the assumption of responsibility for oneself, one's spouse, and one's children*

*and/or elderly parents; 3) strengthen or erode the marital commitment; and 4) increase or decrease disposable family income.*

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It is not anticipated that these regulation amendments will have a direct impact on families. However, there will be positive indirect impacts in that the regulation amendments will ensure that the Commonwealth's air pollution control regulations will function as effectively as possible, thus contributing to reductions in related health and welfare problems.

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